

JUST A THOUGHT FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

Christmas is probably the best time of the year to look into the mirror, as it were, and be honest with ourselves.

Look for the scars of conflict with self and many other abuses resultant from the modern life in a large city.

With many the annual taking of stock will be prominent by the word **failure** written on page after page of our Day Book of life.

But, after all, failures are sometimes the best things that could happen to us. Failure makes a man careful and studious.

It has been often said the road to success is reached through the

refining fires of many failures.

Then you have had the pleasure all the time of trying. That's all the world asks. Try!

The world has been covered over many times with huge, magnificent air castles that never materialized. But who knows or could rob the builder of the pleasure he enjoyed building these castles?

Van Dyck says:

"No endeavor is in vain,
The pleasure is in the doing,
And the prize the vanquished gain
Is the pleasure of pursuing."

TWO MEN

One cold day I chanced to meet
Old John Jones upon the street,
"John," says I, "How do you do?"
"O," says he, "I'm mighty blue,
Nothin' much in life for me,
I'm as bad as I can be,
Gettin' weaker every day,
Not much time for me to stay
In this shadowed vale of tears
With its pain and doubt and fears.
No, sir, Bill, to tell you true
Sure I'm feeling mighty blue."

Little further down the street
Suddenly I chanced to meet
Hiram Hicks all lame and bent
From a nasty accident.
"Hi," says I, "how do you do?"
"Fine as a fiddle—same to you."
And he laughed until a crick
Stove him up all rheumatic,
But he straightened out and said:

"Might be worse—for I ain't dead."

Down the street went old John Jones
Filling up the air with groans,
Handing out a wad of gloom
With his eyes fixed on a tomb.

Hiram Hicks stumped on his way
Caroling a roundelay
That made every fellow sing:
"This old world's the happy thing."

WEATHER PROSPECTS

Cooler—Rain to-night with lowest temperature above freezing; for Chicago and vicinity; Friday unsettled and somewhat colder; brisk southwest shifting to west winds.

